## **Claim Amendments**

(Currently Amended) A food packaging closure apparatus comprising:
 a tubular body having a length with opposite first and second ends, the second end of the tubular body having means for attaching the body second end to packaging of a food product; and,

a lid that is removably attachable to the first end of the tubular body.

- 2) (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising: the second end of the tubular body <u>having means for removably attaching</u> the body second end to packaging around a food product.
- 3) (Original) The apparatus of Claim 2, further comprising: the tubular body having a first opening at the first end of the tubular body, and the tubular body having a second opening at the second end of the tubular body.
  - 4) (Original) The apparatus of Claim 3, further comprising: the first opening being larger than the second opening.
- 5) (Original) The apparatus of Claim 2, further comprising:

  a hollow interior bore extending through the tubular body from the first end to the second end of the tubular body.

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- 6) (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

  A food packaging closure apparatus comprising:

  a tubular body having a length with opposite first and second ends, the second end of the tubular body being adapted for attachment to a food product;

  a lid that is removably attachable to the first end of the tubular body; and, the second end of the tubular body being resilient and engagable around the food product to attach the tubular body to the food product.
- 7) (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

  the tubular body having an exterior surface and the tubular body having a
  rim extending around the first end of the tubular body and projecting outwardly from the
  tubular body exterior surface.
- 8) (Original) The apparatus of Claim 7, further comprising:
  the lid having a lip that engages over the rim of the tubular body to
  removably attach the lid to the first end of the tubular body.
  - 9) (Original) The apparatus of Claim 7, further comprising:the lid being completely removable from the tubular body.
  - (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:the tubular body having a circular cross section.

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- (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:the tubular body having a rectangular cross section.
- 12) (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising: the tubular body having a tapering configuration as the tubular body extends from the first end to the second end.
- 13) (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:
  the tubular body having a tubular wall that extends the length of the tubular body, the tubular wall has a first wall thickness at the tubular body first end and a second wall thickness at the tubular body second end, and the first wall thickness is larger than the second wall thickness.
- 14) (Original) A method of preserving a food product in food packaging that has a food packaging opening, the method comprising:

providing a tubular body that has a length with opposite first and second ends;

positioning the second end of the tubular body on the food product so that the tubular body extends around the food packaging opening;

providing a lid that is removably attachable to the first end of the tubular body; and

removably attaching the lid to the first end of the tubular body.

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- 15) (Original) The method of Claim 14, further comprising:

  providing the tubular body of a resiliently stretchable material; and
  resiliently stretching the second end of the tubular body around the food
  product.
- 16) (Original) The method of Claim 14, further comprising:

  positioning the second end of the tubular body on the food product
  extending around the packaging of the food product.
- 17) (Original) The method of Claim 14, further comprising:

  providing the lid where the lid is completely removable from the tubular body.
- 18) (Original) The method of Claim 14, further comprising:

  providing the tubular body with a first opening at the tubular body first end,
  a second opening at the tubular body second end, a hollow interior bore extending
  through the tubular body from the first end to the second end, and the first opening
  being larger than the second opening.
  - (Original) The method of Claim 14, further comprising:
    providing the tubular body with a circular cross section configuration.

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20) (Original) The method of Claim 14, further comprising: providing the tubular body with a rectangular cross section configuration.

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